

for farmers harvesting their crops, for children raised as Americans, or the many people playing by the rules and seeking United States citizenship because they believe in the promise of America.

Border control, employer verification, exit controls, keeping family units intact, protecting our economy, and many others are tough issues that need to be resolved effectively and fairly. They deserve our time and attention now. I am not interested in just kicking the can down the road by not taking the tough votes on immigration reform. The whole system needs to be fixed, not just part of it.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BRIAN MATHIE

(Mr. BOCCIERI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOCCIERI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of a man with a dedicated vision not just for himself, but for his life's work. My constituent, Dr. Brian Mathie of Louisville, Ohio, has a commitment to a lifetime of healthy vision for all Ohio residents. He proves why the Ohio Optometric Association named him the 2010 Optometrist of the Year.

For his contributions to preserving the gift of sight for people across our district and all across Ohio, for his mentorship and leadership in our community, I too join in congratulating Dr. Mathie for his service.

Countless times I have relied upon Dr. Mathie and his staff at the Roholt Vision Institute of North Canton to provide care for me. He is dependable, reliable, and accurate. Dr. Mathie is not only a leader in the physician's office, but in the classroom and the community, where he serves as an adjunct faculty member at Ohio State University College of Optometry and participates in the Louisville Community Foundation, Rotary Club, and Cross Eyed Missions.

Dr. Mathie, you are a community leader, one dedicated to public service and good public health. Thank you for your commitment. I wish you success in your profession and your leadership.

#### SUPPORTING VETERANS, DOCTORS AND SENIORS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. I would like to address a few items for my colleagues. First of all, I am very proud today to introduce H.R. 6510, which will allow Texas veterans to have a Texas military museum. We look forward to this moving through this Congress and saying "thank you" to our veterans.

I think it is important that we move quickly to pass the Senior Protection Act of 2010 to get \$250 to our seniors. And I rise as well to support H.R. 4994

that we voted on, so that physicians do not get a 25 percent cut in their Medicare payments. That we also are able to provide for Medicare therapy that many of our seniors have. That as well that we will have a mental health add-on that many of my constituents, including MMHRA, will need. And as well that we are providing to make sure that we have enough money to pay for those in poverty to be able to pay their Medicare payments, Medicare Part B.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to address the needs of Americans who have worked, including the veterans who celebrate a veterans museum, including those doctors who work for us, and certainly seniors who need these Medicare benefits. This is a time for us to stand for them.

□ 1350

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### COMMENTS ON AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, this past Tuesday I came to the floor to talk about the corruption in Afghanistan and the growing concern of the American people due to the fact that many in both parties have said we need to stay there 4 more years, including the President of the United States.

In November of this year, we had 53 Americans killed in action in Afghanistan and 146 Americans wounded in Afghanistan. Beside me, Mr. Speaker, are the faces of marines who were killed from Camp Lejeune. Too many times, because of the fact that this country does not have a draft, this country seems to put the war in Afghanistan on the second, third, and fourth pages, and that is a tragedy to the families of those young men and women fighting in Afghanistan and to those families who have lost loved ones who have been killed.

I would like to take just a moment to read from the Washington Examiner a couple of comments and also a "60 Minutes" segment on November 28 by Anderson Cooper called "Good Cop, Bad Cop."

From the Washington Examiner earlier this year: "The Examiner reported that numerous insurgents captured in Pakistan, including some members of

al Qaeda, were returned to Afghanistan upon the request of the Karzai government, and then, according to senior Pakistan officials, 'released back to the Taliban as bargaining chips in negotiations.'

"A marine stationed in southern Afghanistan's volatile Helmand Province told the Examiner that efforts to retaining insurgent fighters are 'worthless.'" They are worthless.

"Earlier this year, his unit held a man known to be working with the Taliban. The marines had gathered evidence that the man was transporting hundreds of pounds of bomb-making equipment and explosives for the Taliban. But, shortly after they captured him, he was set free."

That is a tragedy in itself, Mr. Speaker, because our young men and women are over there dying for what, I do not know. In fact, there was an article written in the magazine called *The American Conservative* by Andrew Bacevich about 6 months ago, and the title of that article was "To Die for a Mystique." He was comparing Vietnam to Afghanistan. Actually, the writer of that article, Andrew Bacevich, fought in Vietnam for this country, and his son died in Iraq for this country.

Let me just briefly read from "Good Cops, Bad Cops: Afghanistan's National Police." This is the "60 Minutes" segment:

"We began with the three-star American general now in charge of their training. 'The police have to succeed,' Lt. General William Caldwell told CNN's Anderson Cooper.

"'If the Afghan police fail, we fail?' Cooper asked.

"'We do,' the general said.

"Caldwell began overseeing training of Afghan security forces last November. 'The sooner we can develop an effective police force, the sooner U.S. forces will be able to have less of an active combat role,' the general said. 'If we had a better-trained Afghan police at this point, that would save American lives,' Cooper said. 'There's no question about that. That is true,' said the general."

Now, Mr. Speaker, let me tell you just how difficult this job is:

"Not only are most of the police illiterate, but it turns out many of them also have a drug problem. There is one study said 10 to 20 percent use or smoke hash and other forms of drugs,' Cooper told Caldwell, 'and that's probably an accurate statistic based on what we have seen,' he replied.

"Another video taken by members of the 82nd Airborne shows an Afghan policeman smoking marijuana before going out on patrol—evidently not an uncommon ritual."

Mr. Speaker, it is time that this House and this Senate and this administration understand that it is not worth the lives of our men and women in uniform to keep them in Afghanistan for 4 years. History has proven it is an uncontrolled country. It will never be a nation, it will never have a